

## **REMARKS**

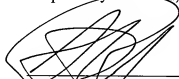
### **Claims in the Application.**

Claims 1-11 and 17-29 are pending in the present application. Claims 12-16 have been canceled. In light of the amendment and following remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the active claims of this application are in a condition for Allowance and Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

## **CONCLUSION**

For the stated reasons, reconsideration is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit the Deposit Account No. 12-1322 of Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP under Order No. 021544-00002. In light of the foregoing remarks, the claims of the application have been distinguished over the cited references. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (713) 226-1218 should he deem it necessary to advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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